

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 149303
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:CHILL:DLD
APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES
NEA/IAI:WBSMITH
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 149303

STADIS/////////
EXDIS, FOR LEWIS FROM VELIOTEX

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (WALTER F. MONDALE)

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT VISIT TO ISRAEL

REF: VELIOTES - VIETS TELECON 6/12/78

1. FOLLOWING IS WHITE HOUSE SUGGESTED STATEMENT ANNOUNCING VISIT. CURRENT THINKING IS THAT STATEMENT MIGHT BE RELEASED AS EARLY AS WEDNESDAY. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS TEXT FIRST THING TUESDAY MORNING. WOULD ALSO LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON WHETHER SIMULTANEOUS USG-GOI STATEMENTS WOULD BE IN ORDER, KEEPING IN MIND THAT HOST FOR VISIT IS U.S.- ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY RATHER THAN ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.

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2. BEGIN TEXT: PRESIDENT CARTER ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT VICE PRESIDENT WALTER F. MONDALE HAS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION OF THE ISRAEL-AMERICA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY TO VISIT ISRAEL FROM JUNE 30 TO JULY 3, 1978 IN CONNECTION WITH THE "CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY. THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL CONVEY THE CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ON THIS IM-

PORTANT ANNIVERSARY. HIS VISIT UNDERSCORES THE DEEP AND ENDURING TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL. END TEXT.

3. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH ABOUT SUITABLE GIFT. THINKING HERE HAS BEEN FOCUSED ALONG LINES OF SOME DOCUMENT SYMBOLIZING THIRTY YEAR TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, BUT IDEAS ON ALTERNATIVE ITEMS REPRESENTING E.G. HISTORY OF JEWS IN AMERICA (SOMETHING FROM THE NEWPORT, R.I. SYNAGOGUE?) OR ARTIFACT NOW IN U.S. HANDS THAT MIGHT RELATE TO LONG UNBROKEN PRESENCE OF JEWS IN PALESTINE/ISRAEL HAVE ALSO BEEN DISCUSSED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE149303
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CHILL:DLD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780245-1135
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780665/aaaacdor.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c94c498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2371622
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VICE PRESIDENT VISIT TO ISRAEL
TAGS: OVIP, US, IS, (MONDALE, WALTER F)
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c94c498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014